

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 AID-05 IO-10 SAM-01

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O R 221040Z AUG 75 ZFF6

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0786

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 11387

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN

SUBJECT: MRS. GANDHI ON BLITZ

REF: A) NEW DELHI 11338 B) NEW DELHI 11339

1. IN RESPONSE TO SENATOR EAGLETON'S QUERY ABOUT BLITZ ARTICLE (REFTELS), MRS. GANDHI SAID THAT BLITZ WAS A SENSATIONAL MAGAZINE WHICH HAD ATTACKED HER AS WELL IN THE PAST. SHE SAID SHE DID NOT KNOW HOW THE ARTICLE IN QUESTION HAD GOTTEN PUBLISHED BECAUSE "WE ARE WATCHING THE PRESS CLOSELY." FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, THE IMPRESSION WAS THAT MRS. GANDHI WAS SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED BY THE SUBJECT.

2. IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTIONS AS TO WHETHER SHE BELIEVED
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CIA HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN BANGLADESH, SHE SAID TWICE

THAT "WE HAVE NO SUCH NEWS."

3. PRESS STORIES ALLEGING US INVOLVEMENT IN BANGLADESH SEEM TO HAVE SLACKENED OFF TODAY AND WE DO NOT NOTE ANY IN THE DELHI PRESS AUGUST 22 EXCEPT FOR THE CPI DAILY PATRIOT. THE COMMUNIST WEEKLY LINK ALSO HAS SOME NASTY BITS IN ITS CURRENT ISSUE. WEST BENGAL CHIEF SECRETARY GUPTA TOLD CONSUL GENERAL KORN AUG 21 WHEN HE PROTESTED PRESS STORIES IN SOME CLCUTTA PAPERS AND THE CPI VERNACULAR DAILY CHARGING US INTERVENTION IN BANGLADESH THAT "WE DO NOT WANT THIS SORT OF THING" AND SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS. NEVERTHELESS, PATRIOT AUG. 22 DOES REPORT A CALCUTTA MEETING THE PREVIOUS DAY ADDRESSED BY THE CALCUTTA HIGH COURT CHIEF JUSTICE, THE WEST BENGAL COFTA GRESS PARTY PRESIDENT, AND CPI LEADERS. THE ARTICLE DESCRIBES SPEAKERS (UNSPECIFIED) AS SAYING EVENTS IN BANGLADESH WERE THE HANDIWORK OF THE CIA.
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Message Attributes

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